World Religions Scavenger Hunt

**Buddhism**

**PBS World Religions Map**

1. Go to the World Religions Map. According to the map, in what regions of the world is Buddhism practiced by more than 10% of the population?

**Religion Facts Website**

Beliefs

1. Who is the founder of Buddhism that became the first “Buddha,” or Enlightened One?
2. Buddhism is practiced in many different ways, but what is the common goal of all Buddhists?
3. Which branch of Buddhism is most popular in Southeast Asia, and how do they think liberation from suffering is achieved?
4. What are the 4 Noble Truths?

1.

2.

3.

4.

6) Explain the following terms as they relate to Buddhism.

Reincarnation:

Nirvana:

**Hinduism**

**PBS World Religions Map**

1) Looking at the World Religions Map, in which countries is Hinduism primarily practiced?

**Religion Facts Website**

Beliefs

*Hinduism is a polytheistic religion, meaning there are multiple gods. Each god represents something different, and Hindus are free to worship any god they choose. Because of this, Hinduism does not have a unified set of beliefs and practices.*

1. What do you think they mean by the saying, "Truth is one; sages call it by different names?"
2. How does this help explain the diversity of beliefs in Hinduism?

Symbols

*The swastika is something we associate with Nazism, but the symbol actually originates from Hinduism.*

1. What does the swastika symbol mean in Hinduism?

Traditions

1. What is the festival of Diwali?
2. What type of calendar does Hinduism follow?

**Christianity**

**PBS World Religions Map**

1. In which regions is Christianity the most practiced religion?

**Religion Facts Website**

Beliefs

1. Is Christianity polytheistic (belief in multiple Gods) or monotheistic (belief in one God)?
2. Who do Christians believe is the messiah (messenger of God)?

Traditions

4) List some of the major Christian holidays?

5) How have these holidays influenced American culture?

Branches

6) Name some of the Christian denominations that were formed after Jesus.

**Judaism**

**PBS World Religions Map**

1) Click on menu, then Judaism. What do you notice about Judaism throughout the world?

**Religion Facts Website**

Beliefs

1. Is Judaism a polytheistic or monotheistic religion?
2. Which day of the week is considered the holy day of worship in Judaism?
3. What do Jews believe about the messiah? How does this compare to Christianity and Islam?

Practices

1. What is the name of the Jewish dietary restriction that prohibits the eating of certain meats and has specific rules for how they should be slaughtered?
2. What types of calendar do Jews follow? What other religions is this similar to?

**Reflection Questions**

1. Why do you think most religions are broken off into multiple different groups (schools, sects, and denominations)?
2. Did you notice any similarities between different religions?
3. Why do you think we use the word religion to help define culture?